

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) An arbor assembly as defined in ~~claim 1~~, claim 21, wherein said shank includes a shank passageway and a portion of said adaptor is mounted within said shank passageway.
3. (Original) An arbor assembly as defined in claim 2, wherein a portion of said shank passageway includes flats and said adaptor includes flats on an exterior surface, wherein said flats on said portion of said shank passageway mate with said flats on said exterior surface of said adaptor.
4. (Original) An arbor assembly as defined in claim 2, wherein said means for locking includes at least one ball passageway in said shank and a ball groove in said adaptor, and wherein when said adaptor is positioned within said shank passageway, said at least one ball passageway is aligned with said ball groove.
5. (Original) An arbor assembly as defined in claim 4, wherein said means for locking further includes at least one locking ball positioned within said at least one ball passageway.

6. (Original) An arbor assembly as defined in claim 5, wherein said means for locking further includes a sleeve, a ball protrusion extending from an inner surface of said sleeve for moving said locking ball into engagement with said ball groove of said adaptor.
7. (Currently Amended) An adaptor assembly as defined in ~~claim 1~~, claim 21, further including a C-ring recess on an outer surface of said shank; a C-ring positioned therein; and said means for locking includes a sleeve, a locking protrusion extending from an inner surface of said sleeve, and wherein when said locking protrusion is positioned distally of said C-ring to lock said assembly and said locking protrusion is positioned proximally of said C-ring to unlock said assembly.
8. (Currently Amended) An arbor assembly as defined in ~~claim 1~~, claim 21, wherein said shank includes a set screw passageway and a set screw positioned within said set screw passageway.
9. (Previously Presented) An arbor assembly for mounting a hole saw to a drill, the arbor assembly comprising:
- a shank for engagement with the drill, said shank including a set screw passageway;
 - a set screw positioned within said set screw passageway;
 - an adapter for supporting the hole saw, said adapter being mounted to said shank; and
 - means for locking said adapter in engagement with said shank and for unlocking said adapter from engagement with said shank, said means for locking including a sleeve, a set screw

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recess in said sleeve, said sleeve being maintained on said shank due to the engagement between said set screw and said set screw recess.

10. (Previously Presented) An arbor assembly for mounting a hole saw to a drill, the arbor assembly comprising:

a shank for engagement with the drill, said shank including a set screw passageway;

a set screw positioned within said set screw passageway;

an adapter for supporting the hole saw, said adapter being mounted to said shank; and

means for locking said adapter in engagement with said shank and for unlocking said adapter from engagement with said shank, wherein said means for locking includes a sleeve having a set screw access passageway for providing access to said set screw.

11. (Currently Amended) An arbor assembly as defined in ~~claim 1~~, claim 21, wherein said adaptor includes a threaded nose for positioning within an aperture through a backplate of a hole saw.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) An arbor assembly as defined in claim 11, further including a bushing mounted to said nose of said adaptor.

Claims 14-18. (Canceled)

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19. (Previously Presented) An arbor assembly for mounting a hole saw to a drill, the arbor assembly comprising:

a shank for engagement with the drill;

a set screw mounted to said shank;

an adapter for supporting the hole saw, said adapter slidably engaged with said shank;

a sleeve slidably engaged with said shank;

said set screw engaging said sleeve; and

means associated with said sleeve for locking said adapter in engagement with said shank and for unlocking said adapter from engagement with said shank.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) An arbor assembly ~~as defined in claim 1~~, wherein for mounting a hole saw to a drill, the arbor assembly comprising:

a shank for engagement with the drill, said shank including an O-ring recess;

an adaptor for supporting the hole saw, said adaptor being mounted to said shank;

an O-ring positioned within said O-ring recess, said O-ring reducing vibrations when the hole saw is rotated by the arbor assembly;

means for locking said adaptor in engagement with said shank and for unlocking said adaptor from engagement with said shank; and

said adaptor further includes a shoulder for engaging said O-ring.

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22. (Previously Presented) An arbor assembly as defined in claim 21, wherein said O-ring is compressed between said shoulder of said adaptor and said shank.

23. (Currently Amended) An arbor assembly as defined in ~~claim 1~~, claim 21, wherein said adaptor includes a shaft having a proximal end and a distal end, a flange extending outwardly from said shaft adjacent said distal end; and at least two apertures through said flange capable of receiving hole saw mounting screws.

24. (Currently Amended) An arbor assembly ~~as defined in claim 23~~, wherein for mounting a hole saw to a drill, the arbor assembly comprising:

a shank for engagement with the drill, said shank including an O-ring recess;

an adaptor for supporting the hole saw, said adaptor being mounted to said shank, said adaptor includes a shaft having a proximal end and a distal end, a flange extending outwardly from said shaft adjacent said distal end, and at least two apertures through said flange capable of receiving hole saw mounting screws;

an O-ring positioned within said O-ring recess, said O-ring reducing vibrations when the hole saw is rotated by the arbor assembly;

means for locking said adaptor in engagement with said shank and for unlocking said adaptor from engagement with said shank; and

said adaptor further includes a nose extending from said distal end of said shaft wherein the diameter of said nose is sized to extend through an aperture through the backplate of the hole saw.

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25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) An adaptor as defined in claim 25, further comprising arbor assembly for mounting a hole saw to a drill, the arbor assembly comprising:

a shank for engagement with the drill;

an adaptor for supporting the hole saw, said adaptor slidably engaged with said shank, said adaptor further including a shaft having a proximal end and a distal end and a flange extending outwardly from said shaft adjacent said distal end, and at least two apertures provided through said flange for accepting fasteners extending through a backplate of the hole saw;

means for locking said adaptor in engagement with said shank and for unlocking said adaptor from engagement with said shank; and

a nose extending from said distal end of said shaft wherein the diameter of said nose is sized to extend through an aperture through the backplate of the hole saw.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) An adaptor as defined in claim 27, further comprising: for use in connection with a quick change assembly for mounting a hole saw to a drill, said adaptor comprising:

a shaft having a proximal end and a distal end,

a pilot drill bit passageway through said shaft;

a flange extending outwardly from said shaft adjacent said distal end;

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at least two apertures extending through said flange capable of receiving hole saw mounting screws; and

a nose extending from said distal end of said shaft wherein the diameter of said nose is sized to extend through an aperture through the backplate of the hole saw.

29. (Currently Amended) An adaptor as defined in claim 27, claim 30, wherein at least a portion of the outer surface of said shaft is hexagonally-shaped.

30. (Currently Amended) An adaptor ~~as defined in claim 27~~, further including for use in connection with a quick change assembly for mounting a hole saw to a drill, said adaptor comprising:

a shaft having a proximal end and a distal end,

a pilot drill bit passageway through said shaft;

a flange extending outwardly from said shaft adjacent said distal end; and

at least two apertures extending through said flange capable of receiving hole saw mounting screws; and

a shoulder extending around a circumference of said shaft.

31. (Currently Amended) An adaptor as defined in claim 27, claim 30, further including a ball groove extending around a circumference of said shaft.

32. (Previously Presented) An assembly as defined in claim 9, wherein said assembly further includes a pilot drill bit maintained within said shank by said set screw.

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33. (Previously Presented) An assembly as defined in claim 9, said means for locking further including at least one locking ball passageway through said shank and a locking ball, and wherein movement of said sleeve is limited by said set screw to maintain said locking ball at least partially within said locking ball passageway.

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